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THE MAIN ORIENTATIONS

Development options were formulated in terms of *visit experience*. The two proposed options are based on the site's fundamental characteristics and the needs of present and potential clientele and are influenced by the site's very identity as a fortified island.

These options differ mainly in the interpretation activities and means used to present the site's heritage resources and history.

*Dig into the earth, dig back through time
Reading a page of history
Fill in the memory blanks
Listening to the rhythm of the island's breath
Search for its history
Seeking its identity*

(free translation)

(Raynald Saint-Hilaire, arch.
Les architectes Thériault, Parent
Laprade et Associés)

OPTION 1: TREASURE ISLAND

A site to explore

This option proposes an experience based on *exploration of the site* and discovery of the island's historical, architectural, archaeological and natural treasures which have been carefully preserved from the 18th century to the present and are now ready to tell a tale and offer up the key to their mysteries...

The island becomes a place of play and adventure, beckoning visitors to discover the traces left by the occupants from different periods throughout its history. Gaining access to the island's treasures becomes an experience which is both mysterious and exciting.

Originality and Fantasy Audiovisual Decor

This option appeals to the imagination: fiction, dreams, and fables intermingle to create a mysterious atmosphere. The methods used to enable visitors to discover and enjoy the island's treasures are stamped with *originality and fantasy*, and call upon the latest techniques to create the magical *audiovisual decor*.

OPTION 2: SHROUDED IN THE MISTS OF TIME

Travelling Back Through Time Audiovisual Decor

This option allows visitors to *travel back through time* and to experience another era through the architecture of a military fort and the way of life in a 19th-century garrison.

Time stands still at Fort Lennox: the visitors' journey through time catapults them back to the period 1820-1830. They experience life during this era and use Fort Lennox as a reference point with which to explore other periods of occupation of the fort and the island.

Period Atmosphere Theatrical Scene

This option is inspired by a more traditional approach of creating *period atmosphere* and using *theatrical scenes* to have visitors «relive» the past. When they pass through the doorway of the compound, visitors suddenly find themselves in another era: the site's setting and decor create an atmosphere conducive to travel through time.



THE CONSULTATION

1st STEP: Information sessions

Come and meet the representatives of Environment Canada's Canadian Parks Service during the information sessions to be held on **October 28, 29 and 30, 1991.**

You'll be able to find out more about the proposed development orientations and obtain all the information needed to understand the project.

2nd STEP: Public hearings

Organizations and individuals wishing to submit a brief must forward it to the address indicated below.

Should you wish to present your brief orally during the public hearings, please register as soon as possible by contacting the public participation coordinator. We would appreciate receiving your brief at this same address before November 22, 1991. The public hearings will take place on **December 9, 10 and 12, 1991.**

CALENDAR

PLACES	INFORMATION SESSIONS	PUBLIC HEARINGS
Saint-Paul-de-l'Île-aux-Noix Golden Age Club Room 959 Principale	Monday October 28, 1991 at 7:30 p.m.	Monday December 9, 1991 at 7:30 p.m.
Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu Fernand Charest Cultural Centre 190 Laurier	Tuesday October 29, 1991 at 7:30 p.m.	Tuesday December 10, 1991 at 7:30 p.m.
Longueuil Holiday Inn 999 de Serigny	Wednesday October 30, 1991 at 7:30 p.m.	Thursday December 12, 1991 at 7:30 p.m.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A **document** describing the development orientations of Fort Lennox National Historic Site is available on request.

For any additional information, don't hesitate!

Write to us at the following address:

Public Consultation
Parks Service
Environment Canada
3 Buade
Québec, Québec
G1R 4V7

Or call: 1-800-463-6769

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THE FUTURE

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OF

Fort Lennox

NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE



*Public Consultation
on the
Development Orientations*



Environment Canada
Parks Service

Environnement Canada
Service des parcs

The architectural and environmental qualities of Fort Lennox National Historic Site make it a preferred destination that impresses and delights its visitors every year.

To enhance visitor appreciation of its heritage resources and to make each visit to this history-laden fort a more enriching experience, the Canadian Parks Service wishes to improve the site.

This pamphlet will inform you of the proposed development orientations, which will be explained to you in more detail during the information meetings. Public hearings on the subject are also planned.

We therefore invite you to participate in this consultation and to forward your comments to us. The opinions gathered during this exercise will provide a clearer view of the situation when decisions on the development of this national historic site are made.

Thank you for your contribution to this consultation process and rest assured that we welcome your every suggestion and comment.

Gilles Desautniers
Director General
Québec Region
Canadian Parks Service

A FORTIFIED ISLAND

The **Fort Lennox** National Historic Site is situated on Île aux Noix in the middle of the Richelieu River a few kilometres from the Canada-U.S. border.



Île aux Noix played an important role in the military history of Canada. It bears witness to the long history of the Hudson-Lake Champlain-Richelieu waterway, a route of invasion into Canada from the south, and was the scene of several military activities. Upon the vestiges of the work the French undertook in 1759, the present fortifications were built by the British between 1819 and 1829.

The fort, which occupies the south tip of Île aux Noix, is surrounded by steep earth ramparts, encircled in turn by a wide moat. The stone buildings inside the compound — the officers' quarters, guardhouse, barracks, powder magazine and stores — offer a remarkable example of early 19th-century military architecture.

Since 1921, the fort has been considered a site of national historic interest. It was integrated into Canada's network of national historic parks and sites in 1940.

THEMES AND OBJECTIVES

Defining the themes and objectives of a site constitutes the first step in the planning process and is intended to serve as a basis for research and the development of this national historic site.

THEMES

- Île aux Noix: Two Centuries of Military and Civilian Occupation
- For Lennox: Military Camp for 19th-Century Garrisons
- Fort Lennox: A Feat of British Military Engineering
- Shipbuilding
- Nature and Civilization on Île aux Noix



OBJECTIVES

- To ensure the preservation of Île aux Noix's historic resources for present and future generations;
- To develop the historical themes for visitors by means of interpretation programs and various publications;
- To protect as much as possible the park's natural environment and the surrounding waters, while stressing the presence of historical resources;
- To favour the discovery of the park's resources by providing visitors with appropriate services;
- To contribute to the enhancement of the Haut-Richelieu's heritage and participate in the growth of cultural tourism in the Greater Montréal area.

CONCERNS

Respect for the site's identity and the harmonious atmosphere that reigns over this fortified island... these are the concerns that lie at the heart of the development of Fort Lennox National Historic Site. This distinctive character, dubbed the site's "*spirit*", "*soul*" or "*ambience*", will carefully be taken into consideration.

ELEMENTS TO BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION

- Preservation and use of historic structures
- Preservation and development of archeological remains
- Conservation and presentation of the site's natural environment
- Presentation of the site's history
- Visitor access and reception
- Recreation and related services
- Regional integration
- Management and operations
- Attendance

DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT

The proposed development concept defines the framework for the development options and serves as a backdrop for the options. This concept is based mainly on the site's geographical layout and the experience acquired during the site's fifteen years of operation



LEGEND

- ● Access and reception
- ▨ Conservation – interpretation of the historical environment
- Conservation – interpretation of the natural environment
- Recreation – leisure
- Ambience
- Maintenance

VISITOR ACCESS AND RECEPTION

- Maintain and improve existing reception, information and orientation services on the jetty.
- Maintain and improve visitor information and orientation facilities on the island's access docks.
- Introduce interpretation elements on the ferry crossing to the island.

CONSERVATION AND INTERPRETATION OF THE HISTORICAL ENVIRONMENT

- Conserve and interpret the archeological sites located outside the fortified compound.
- Preserve, develop and use the Fort Lennox buildings for interpretation and services.
- Preserve and interpret earthworks and moat as integral parts of the fortification.

CONSERVATION AND INTERPRETATION OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

- Conserve and interpret natural elements of particular interest.

RECREATION AND LEISURE

- Maintain and improve leisure facilities

